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WASHINGTON – The Stockbridge-Munsee casino proposed for the Town of Thompson would be good for the economy of the region, Congressman Maurice Hinchey said Friday. But the lawmaker said before the Interior Department takes action on it, officials must weigh all the issues.

"What we're trying to do is upgrade the quality of the economy in the region and New York,

and in this case, with regard to the situation in Sullivan County," he said. "This is an issue that is very important."

The project would be more than just a casino, but include a resort, retail and recreational activities employing large numbers of residents, Hinchey said.

He said he also understands the concerns of those who oppose it.

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